First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

http://www.myjewishlearning.com/blog/rabbis-without-borders/2012/04/12/marching-towards-freedom-with-the-omer/person-walking-in-the-desert/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

February 22, 2015 10:00 am

First Sunday in Lent

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"Dream God's Dream"** **120 SING!** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Tad Wysor

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Tad Wysor

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Hymn** **"When Peace, Like A River"** **438 NCH**

Lenten Candles

Meditation - Week One Carol Hall

Unison Prayer

Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence and help us to put our trust in you. Amen.

Anthem **"I Think I Heard Him Say"** FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading Genesis 9:8-17 Tad Wysor

Hymn **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Carol Hall

New Testament Reading Mark 1:9-15 and 1 Peter 3:19-21 Carol Hall

Reflection **"Let the Teaching Begin"** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"Go On Dreaming"** **65 ES**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Traditional Version Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Our Father and Mother
Who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Tad Wysor

Many people journey with us in this world Lord. They are often unaware of the smallest kindnesses or interest in them or their lives. Help us to see these people on our path and reach out in love as we were taught by your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Offertory Steve McGhee

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication** ***(Unison) Carol Hall

God of goodness, you have given us many blessings. Let us use these blessings to increase our ability to bring justice and love into this world. Bless these gifts that we have shared to this, our work together. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"Savior God Above"** **602 NCH**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One: In this season of Lent, take time, when you can, to be still.
Ponder the one who gave his life to bring forth the kingdom of God.
Many: We will honor Christ by believing in God's vision for creation;
We will be like good soil, in which the seeds of justice may grow.
One: God speaks to us in the life of Jesus;
Let us hear the word and understand it.
Many: We are witnesses to God's transforming power;
We go forth as Christ's partners in the work of justice and love.
Amen.

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website:* *www.ypsiucc.com

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: Feb 22nd	Next Sunday: March 1st
Usher	Marty Klieno	Jamie Goldsmith
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Tad Wysor	Donna Eyster
Worship Set-up	Margaret Harner	Donna Eyster
Acolyte	Desayre Penn	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Margaret Harner	Patty Sherwood
Sunday School	Anne Marie N-T	Melanie Harner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEETING OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC: The Annual Meeting has been postponed and will happen on March 22, 2015 after the service.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address': Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights***, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expired May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.